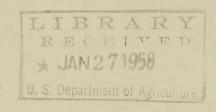


Instructions for Growing African Violets from Seed



African violet seed will grow successfully in any of the following planting mixtures.

- 1. Finely milled sphagnum moss. (The "damping off" of young seedlings is held to a minimum with the use of this media). Sifted sand equal to the amount of sphagnum moss may be added if desired.
- 2. Well sifted sand with an equal part of sifted peat moss or vermiculite.
- 3. Good garden soil with an equal part of sand. This mixture should also be sieved and then sterilized before planting the seeds. Sterilization may be done easily by baking the soil in an oven for about 15 minutes at 250°F. Let stand for one day before planting the seeds.

The seed may be planted in any type of container; however, one in which the water will come from the bottom to the surface is usually preferred.

The seed should be scattered evenly over the moistened surface of the sifted planting mixture. Do not cover the seed. Place a glass cover over the container, but leave it slightly ajar in order to permit circulation of the air. The glass cover helps to maintain a constant moist condition. Most failures are due to drying out. However, too much water will contribute to damping off.

General Care

The germination of the seed and the growth of the seedlings is best when conditions are kept nearly constant.

- 1. Temperature should be around 70°F.
- 2. There must be good light but never direct sunlight.
- 3. The seed and seedlings should be kept moist at all times. Water should come up to the surface from below. One way to accomplish this is to use a container having bottom drainage and to place it in a pan of water.
- 4. When the seedlings have about four leaves you may transplant them.

The seeds should germinate in about three weeks, but it has been known to take a few weeks more or less.

If you should have any questions concerning your African violet seed, feel free to write us.

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